

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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R 121008Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1963

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EVIN ETRD RO CASC

SUBJ: ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERALIZED PREFERENCES: OUTSTANDING PROPERTY  
CASES

REF: STATE 027845

1. SUMMARY: THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CLAIMS FOR US CITIZENS' PROPERTY NATIONALIZED BY ROMANIA SINCE 1946 WHICH MIGHT AFFECT ROMANIA'S ELIGIBILITY UNDER SECTION 502(B)(4) OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974. HOWEVER, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CLAIMS FROM BEFORE MARCH 30, 1960 WERE COVERED BY THE US-ROMANIAN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OF 1960 AND SHOULD NOT AFFECT ROMANIA'S ELIGIBILITY. EMBASSY MAY NOT BE AWARE OF ALL CASES WHICH COULD AFFECT ROMANIA'S ELIGIBILITY BECAUSE FILES, ESPECIALLY BEFORE 1970, ARE NOT COMPLETE. END SUMMARY.

2. OUR FILES CONTAIN APPROXIMATELY 100 ACTIVE CASES OF OUTSTANDING CLAIMS OF US CITIZENS WHO HAVE HAD THEIR PROPERTY NATIONALIZED BY THE GOR, AND SEVERAL HUNDRED ADDITIONAL CASES WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT RESULT IN VALID CLAIMS. EMBASSY FILES HAVE BEEN LIMITED FOR MANY YEARS, AS A PRECAUTION AGAINST EVACUATION. ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO INSURE THAT WE ARE AWARE OF ALL NATION-  
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ALIZATION CASES, OR EVEN THE POTENTIALLY MOST TROUBLESOME

CASES, WITHOUT ADDITIONAL RESEARCH BY THE DEPARTMENT.

3. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT ALL CLAIMS DATING FROM BEFORE MARCH 30, 1960 ARE SUBJECT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE US-ROMANIAN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OF THAT DATE, AND NEED NOT BE CONSIDERED IN THE EMBASSY'S SURVEY.

4. BEFORE FORWARDING MORE RECENT CASES, EMBASSY WISHES TO KNOW IF DEPARTMENT NEEDS A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EACH OUTSTANDING CASE, OR AS A FIRST STEP, A LISTING OF THE CLAIMANTS, PROPERTIES AND RELEVANT DATES.

5. RE PARA 6 REFTTEL: GOR IS GENERALLY AWARE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974, INCLUDING ITS POTENTIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERALIZED PREKURENCES. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT WE NOT RAISE THIS SUBJECT UNTIL WE HAVE COMPLETED OUR SURVEY OF OUTSTANDING CASES, AND HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF THE KINDS OF CASES WHICH WILL CREATE PROBLEMS UNDER THE PROVISIONS (ESPECIALLY CASES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OF LIMITED VALUE, WHICH MAKE UP A LARGE PART OF THE POST-1960 CASES IN OUR FILES). FOR EXAMPLE, GOR OFFICIALS ARE LIKELY TO BE INCREDULOUUHTHAT DISPUTES OVER ROMANIAN PAINTINGS OR OTHER ARTICLES OF QUOTE NATIONAL PATRIMONY UNQUOTE CREATE GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF TRADE PREFERENCES.  
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## Message Attributes

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